AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An ink composition used for inkjet recording, comprising a colorant, a humectant, water, and a water-soluble substance that is condensation-polymerized in the absence of the water,

wherein the water-soluble substance is a hydrolyzate formed by a reaction of a first compound, a second compound, [[and]] with a third compound, wherein the first compound comprises an alkoxysilane comprising an amino group, the second compound comprises an alkoxysilane comprising a hydrophobic group selected from alkyl, fluoroalkyl, and mixtures thereof, and the third compound comprises an alkoxysilane without an amino group, wherein the substance is condensation-polymerized in the absence of the water, thereby forming a network so as to enclose the colorant, and

the network has hydrophobicity because of the hydrophobic group.

2. (cancelled)

3. (original) The ink composition of claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic group is an alkyl group.

4. (original) The ink composition of claim 3, wherein the carbon number of the alkyl group is equal to or greater than 3 and equal to or smaller than 6.

5. (original) The ink composition of claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic group is a fluoroalkyl group.

6. (original) The ink composition of claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic group includes both an alkyl group and a fluoroalkyl group.

7. (original) The ink composition of claim 6, wherein the carbon number of the alkyl group is equal to or greater than 3 and equal to or smaller than 6.

8. (original) The ink composition of claim 1, further comprising a penetrant.

9. (currently amended) The ink composition of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the amount of the ~~silicon~~ second compound ~~having a hydrophobic group~~ is equal to or higher than 3 mol% and equal to or lower than 17 mol% when calculated on the basis of a silicon atom as a reference.

10. (currently amended) An ink cartridge comprising an ink composition for inkjet recording, wherein:

the ink composition contains a colorant, a humectant, water, and a water-soluble substance that is condensation-polymerized in the absence of the water; and

the water-soluble substance is a hydrolyzate formed by a reaction of a first compound, a second compound, [[and]] with a third compound, wherein the first compound comprises an alkoxysilane comprising an amino group, the second compound comprises an alkoxysilane comprising a hydrophobic group selected from alkyl, fluoroalkyl, and mixtures thereof, and the third compound comprises an alkoxysilane without an amino group, wherein the water-soluble substance is condensation-polymerized in the absence of the water, thereby forming a network so as to enclose the colorant, and

the network has hydrophobicity because of the hydrophobic group.

11. (original) The ink cartridge of claim 10, wherein the ink composition further contains a penetrant.

12. (currently amended) A recording apparatus comprising an ink composition for inkjet recording, the recording apparatus ejecting the ink composition toward a recording medium, wherein:

the ink composition contains a colorant, a humectant, water, and a water-soluble substance that is a hydrolyzate formed by a reaction of a first compound, a second compound, [[and]] with a third compound, wherein the first compound comprises an alkoxysilane comprising an amino group, the second compound comprises an alkoxysilane

comprising a hydrophobic group selected from alkyl, fluoroalkyl, and mixtures thereof, and

the third compound comprises ~~comprising~~ an alkoxysilane without an amino group;

the water-soluble substance is condensation-polymerized in the absence of the water, thereby forming a network so as to enclose the colorant, and

the network has hydrophobicity because of the hydrophobic group.

13. (original) The recording apparatus of claim 12, wherein the ink composition further contains a penetrant.